

Cairo Faux Pas

# How CIA Aide Upset Diplomacy in Egypt

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CPYRGHT

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This is the story of the American who tipped off Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser that Assistant Secretary of State George Allen was bringing him a protest note from Secretary John Foster Dulles.

It also is the story of Ambassador to Egypt Henry A. Byroade—and of the part played by an American newspaper account of the message Allen carried to Nasser protesting Egypt's arms deal with the Communists.

It is a very different tale from the one told by Nasser the day he announced nationalization of the Universal Suez Canal Company, the move which produced the Suez crisis.

The American involved — a Central Intelligence Agency employee—is no longer in Egypt.

Byroade has become American Ambassador in South Africa and Allen has become American Ambassador in Greece.

On Sept. 27, 1955, a year ago this Thursday, Nasser announced Egypt would buy arms from Communist Czechoslovakia in exchange for cotton. (Ten months later Nasser admitted he bought the arms "from Russia," adding: "I say from Russia and not from Czechoslovakia.") That same day Dulles had talked in New York about the arms deal, about which he already knew, with Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov, but had received no satisfaction.

On Sept. 28, Dulles dispatched Allen on two hours' notice to Egypt, giving him a letter pointing out to Nasser the dangers of becoming in-